


To: Hammerschmidt, Ron[Hammerschmidt.Ron@epa.gov]; Asher, Audrey[Asher.Audrey@epa.gov]; Gravatt, Dan[Gravatt.Dan@epa.gov]; Doster, Branden[branden.doster@dnr.mo.gov]
From: Tapia, Cecilia
Sent: Mon 10/21/2013 9:08:34 PM
Subject: FW: Questions
[westlakefacebookoct17th.pdf](#)

I've attached the MCEs power point which has the OU2 RI/FS citation regarding the 1993 fire for your information.

In addition, the area where the isolation barrier is contemplated should be in an area with NO buried RIM. The testing is being conducted to confirm that RIM materials are not present.

 **Cecilia Tapia**
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From: Doster, Branden [mailto:branden.doster@dnr.mo.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2013 2:55 PM
To: Tapia, Cecilia; Gravatt, Dan
Subject: Questions

Dan and Cecilia:

Please see below five questions we received via our website from a citizen, and our draft responses. We would like to send our response by the end of today. Your feedback and suggestions are appreciated.

Thanks,

Branden

Branden B. Doster
Chief - Federal Facilities Section
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1. Why wasn't Todd Thalhamer informed that there had been a 1993 fire in the landfill? How did anyone expect him to do his job responsibly without the adequate information?

Mr. Thalhamer was aware of the 1993 fire as we have discussed the incident with him on several occasions.

2. Why wasn't the public aware of the 1993 fire? Was the EPA aware? Is the Attorney General aware of that fire?

The Department's files on Bridgeton Sanitary Landfill are open to the public and the files have been provided for reviews upon request. EPA has information in their file about the fire was aware of the fire. The Attorney General's office is aware of the fire.

3. The brush hog should not be used for removing the vegetation. The people of the community are against it. Is the DNR willing to discuss this publicly with community groups?

Please note, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the lead agency on the isolation barrier wall project and other activities within the West Lake Landfill site. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) recommended in a September 18, 2013 letter that the EPA conditional approval the Gamma Cone Penetrometer Work Plan with consideration of eleven "Conditions". Condition #9 of MDNR's letter requested the use of non-grinding equipment such as shears or handheld pruners. The EPA considered this Condition and wrote a September 20, 2013 conditional approval letter. Please see the letters here: <http://dnr.mo.gov/bridgeton/docs/usepaltrgcptwestlake9202013.pdf>

4. What testing of soil and air will be done PRIOR to the dirt being stirred up by the brush hog?

Referencing the EPA approved workplan (<http://dnr.mo.gov/bridgeton/docs/gcptworkplan-revised92713.pdf>), the contractor for this work will conduct overland gamma (radiation) surveys prior to vegetative clearing. The survey results will be used to instruct the vegetative clearing crew to avoid ground disturbance in areas with radiological levels over background. Prior sampling has also been conducted under the oversight of EPA during the Remedial Investigation and other phases of the project. Those results are available by contacting EPA or through their website: http://www.epa.gov/region7/cleanup/west_lake_landfill/index.htm

5. FUSRAP representatives need to be consulted on how best to handle this radioactive waste that is possibly going to be disturbed building the trench, since none of us know for sure what and where the waste is located. How do we go about getting the DNR to contract with FUSRAP to have their experts review the data and offer suggestions for containment?

The EPA is also the lead regulator on the United States Army Corps of Engineers' St. Louis FUSRAP sites and are in regular communication. Although the USACE, due to a lack of authorization, may not be able to provide consultation on West Lake Landfill related issues, as a sister Federal Agency, the EPA does have access to the USACE's experts.